ELKO INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER News Release

Wednesday, June 21, 2006, 10:00 a.m. 4141 Barth #1 Fire, Update #1

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FIRE STARTS SOUTH OF CARLIN, NEVADA

Elko, Nevada – A fast moving wildfire started late Tuesday southwest of Carlin, NV.

The Barth #1 Fire has burned about 4,000 acres approximately 15 miles southwest of Carlin and 5 miles south of I-80. The fire is currently 50% contained. The fire may be human caused and is under investigation.

The fire is burning in sagebrush and grass in steep terrain. No homes are threatened; however, there are threats to a power line, gas line, livestock habitat, and portions of the California National Historic Trail.

A large array of fire fighting resources are currently on hand or enroute to the scene. One heavy air tanker and three single-engine air tankers will drop fire retardant. One helicopter is being used for water drops. Eight engines from BLM, Nevada Division of Forestry, and Carlin Volunteer Fire Department are fighting the fire. Heavy equipment from Eureka County and the TS Ranch is being used also to fight the fire. Three 20-person fire crews are enroute to the fire.

Nevada Division of Forestry fire fighters worked through the night building fire line around the blaze.

Acting Elko Interagency Dispatch Center Manager Gina Dingman commented, "Our fire fighters on the scene are experiencing fire behavior that we normally do not see until August. Because of the sheer volume of fuels left over from last year and the new grass/fuels from this year, conditions are hazardous. We urge the public to be extremely cautious with fire and outdoor activities."

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